City of Thieves Test

Kevin Lee

True/False Questions:

1. The Colonel gives Lev and Koyla 600 Ruble notes and a letter to buy eggs.

2. When they reach the farmhouse, Lev and Koyla see girls dancing to jazz music.

3. Vika has brown hair.

4. The Einsatzkommando rewards the literate prisoners with warm food and a job back in Berlin.

5. The Russians believed in the lesson of Darwin’s Mockingbirds-life must adapt or die

Multiple Choice

1. 1. In what city does the story start off in?

a. Novoye Koshkino

b. Berezovka

c. Piter

d. Mga

2. What does Lev get arrested for?

a. Being out on curfew

b. Looting a German

c. Selling black market items

d. Making fun of a soldier

3.What are the 2 things the Einsatzkommando Abendroth claims Jews are good at?

a. Chess and making money

b. Having big noses, and making money

c. Violin playing and Chess

d. Nothing and nothing

4.What is Kolya’s book title?

a. Radchenko

b. The Courtyard Hound

c. The Tokarev Pistol

d. Engels Proskpekt

5. What do Lev and Kolya find on the dogs in the clearing of the woods?

a. Propaganda posters

b. Strap on mines

c. Chocolate

d. Rocket launchers

6. What does Kolya say that Lev could beat Abendroth at?

a. Chess

b. Drinking

c. Running

d. Shooting

7. Who does Abendroth agree to let go if Lev beats him at the game?

a. Lev

b. Kolya

c. Vika

d. All of them

8. Where does Vika hide Lev’s dagger before leaving to meet Abendroth?

a. In her own coat

b. In Lev’s shoe

c. In Lev’s coat

d. In her own shoe

9. Vika studied what before joining the war as a sniper?

a. Shooting

b. Astronomy

c. Math

d. Poetry

10. What does Vika bring to Lev at the end of the story?

a. A dagger

b. Some bread

c. 12 eggs

d. A hat

Short answer

1. What does Kolya say he was doing when Lev asks why Kolya left his army unit (the first time)?

2. What does the 10 Ruble note that Kolya and Lev find on their way to Mga offer?

3. What happens to the chicken Kolya and Lev get after they find out it is a rooster?

4.Where does Lev get sent after being captured by the soldiers for looting?

5.What does Kolya scam out of a merchant after he is released from the Crosses?

Short essay

1. It comes to light that The Courtyard Hound is not a real book written by Ushakovo’s work but rather a story that Kolya is making up as time goes. Why does Lev think Kolya hid his story under a false author?

2. Every time a convoy stops Lev and Kolya from moving around, the Colonel’s letter helps the pair gets through. As soon as the papers are read, the convoys immediately treat as if Lev and Kolya were the most important people on earth. Explain the irony of this situation, and what Kolya claims that he is doing for the NKVD.

3. Explain how Vika represents “modern warfare”

4. The idea of constipation constantly appears through out the story. Why is this important?

5. When Kolya dies in the end, he spends his entire last moments as a joke, then with the line of “its not the way I pictured it.” Why do you think Kolya always acted as if everything was funny and made jokes constantly.

Answers:

True/False Questions:

1. False

2. True

3. False

4. False

5. True

Multiple Choice

1. 1. C

2. B

3. C

4. B

5. B

6. A

7. C

8. B

9. B

10. C

Short answer

1. Defending his thesis on The Courtyard Hound.

2. Free passage to a Russia after the war

3. They eat it

4. The Crosses (a jail)

5.Wood alcohol

Short essay

1. Lev thinks that Kolya hid his name under a false author because Kolya was afraid of facing embarrassment of someone laughing at his few lines. Though Kolya was not afraid of Nazis and cannibals, others laughing made him nervous. He also tells the story of how his father used to have poet gatherings where failed poets would be in complete shame and compared them to Kolya’s fears

2. The irony of this situation is that, Kolya and Lev are actually looking for eggs instead of on a top-secret mission. Plus the fact that everyone is treating them so well is humorous. Kolya however continues to claim that he is organizing the partisans so that the Russians could surround the enemies on both sides. Thus, making the convoy’s give him much respect.

3. Vika is a slender tom-boyish girl that is still no bigger than Lev. Yet she is the top sniper of the partisans, and has the 2nd highest kill count for women. In the olden days, to win a battle, everything depended on strength and muscle. Without either, it was impossible for a person to win a battle. But now, in modern times, any person has the ability to fight and kill another human being. Thus Vika represents “modern warfare” by showing that even a slender girl like her can kill dozens of soldiers.

4. Every time Kolya mentions constipation he always wonders what it is going to look like when “it” actually comes out. I believe that his constipation represents the war in a way. It seems like its going to go on forever, especially because of the lack of food (or in the case of war, support) and it is impossible to see how everything is going to end. It emphasizes the fact that the end of the war is near but it is not determined HOW it is going to end.

5. I believe that Kolya acted if everything was funny to cover up his fears. During the entire journey with Lev, Kolya always maintained a sense of humor, especially during the crucial moments where most people would have been scared out of their mind. But Kolya even made jokes to the enemy, calling them names and taunting them. This thought process is obviously to cover up his nervousness in all these situations. But his true feelings finally come out in the end, with his last words. Those last words finally express the true fear that Kolya had of dying during the entire journey.